

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Craig R. White

Serial No.: 09/727,094

Filed: November 30, 2000

Docket No.: 10003980-1

Title: PRINT PROCESSING SYSTEM AND METHOD

REMARKS

The following Remarks are made in response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed November 2, 2005, in which claims 1-13 and 18-28 were rejected. With this Amendment, claims 1, 9, and 18 have been amended to clarify Applicant's invention. Claims 1-13 and 18-28 remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-13 and 18-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Aoki U.S. Patent No. 6,631,008.

With this Amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the print processing system registry is configured to have discrete print processing services of a plurality of discrete print processing providers registered therewith, and clarify that the print job service provider is configured to communicate with the print processing system registry and coordinate utilization of the discrete print processing services of the discrete print processing providers to fulfill the print job, wherein the print job service provider is adapted to receive a print request and the data file for the print job from the user and distribute the print request and the data file to the print job storage provider, the print job processing provider, the print job print provider, and the print job delivery provider for the user based on the print request and which of the discrete print processing services are necessary for the print job.

With this Amendment, independent claim 9 has been amended to clarify that the print processing system registry is configured to have discrete print processing services of a plurality of discrete print processing providers registered therewith, and clarify that the print job service provider is configured to communicate with the print processing system registry and coordinate utilization of the discrete print processing services of the discrete print processing providers to fulfill the print job.

With this Amendment, independent claim 18 has been amended to clarify that the method includes providing a print processing system registry having discrete print processing services of a plurality of discrete print processing providers registered therewith, and includes with the print job service provider, coordinating utilization of the discrete print processing services of the discrete print processing providers to fulfill the print job, including

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distributing the print request and the data file to the print job storage provider, the print job processing provider, the print job print provider, and the print job delivery provider for the user via the communication network based on the print request and which of the discrete print processing services are necessary for the print job.

With respect to the Aoki patent, Applicant submits that this patent does not teach or suggest a system for processing a print job as claimed in independent claim 1, a system for processing a print job as claimed in independent claim 9, nor a method of processing a print job as claimed in independent claim 18. For example, the Aoki patent discloses a network system, information processing apparatus and information memory medium which can effectively select the optimum printers from among the plurality of printers connected to the network based on the quality of printing image data and the availability of each printer to perform a printing operation (col. 1, lines 54-60). As such, the Aoki patent discloses a plurality of servers 20A and 20B and a plurality of printers 40a, 40b, 40c such that when a printing instruction and image data 100 intended for printing are sent to the desired server 20, the server 20 receives the printing instruction and image data 100 and determines the optimum printer for printing among the plurality of printer 40a-40c, performs data conversion processing on the printing data suitable to the image quality, and prints an output by using the determined printer (col. 7, line 53 - col. 8, line 13).

The system of the Aoki patent, however, does not include a print processing system registry configured to have discrete print processing services (i.e., separate print processing services) of a plurality of discrete print processing providers (i.e., separate print processing entities) registered therewith, and a print job service provider configured to communicate with the print processing system registry and coordinate utilization of the discrete print processing services of the discrete print processing providers to fulfill the print job, wherein the discrete print processing providers include a print job storage provider, a print job processing provider, a print job print provider, and a print job delivery provider, and the discrete print processing services include a storage capability of the print job storage provider to store a data file for the print job, a processing capability of the print job processing provider to process the data file for the print job, a printing capability of the print job print provider to print the print job, and a delivery capability of the print job delivery provider to deliver a completed print job to the user.

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In view of the above, Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 9, and 18 are each patentably distinct from the Aoki patent and, therefore, are each in a condition for allowance. Furthermore, as dependent claims 2-8 further define patentably distinct claim 1, dependent claims 10-13 further define patentably distinct claim 9, and dependent claims 19-28 further define patentably distinct claim 18, Applicant submits that these dependent claims are also in a condition for allowance. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-13 and 18-28 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) be reconsidered and withdrawn and that claims 1-13 and 18-28 be allowed.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-13 and 18-28 are all in a condition for allowance and requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of all pending claims.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to Nathan Rieth either at Telephone No. (208) 396-5287, Facsimile No. (208) 396-3958 or Scott A. Lund at Telephone No. (612) 573-2006, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

Hewlett-Packard Company
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, Colorado 80527-2400

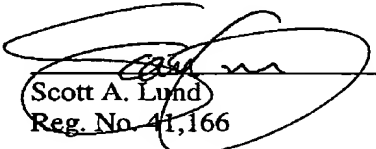
Respectfully submitted,

Craig R. White,

By,

DICKE, BILLIG & CZAJA, PLLC
Fifth Street Towers, Suite 2250
100 South Fifth Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402
Telephone: (612) 573-2006
Facsimile: (612) 573-2005

Date: JAN. 18, 2006
SAL:jan



Scott A. Lund
Reg. No. 41,166

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By 

Name: Scott A. Lund